

# The Village Voice



Volume 25, Number 5

Indian Springs Village, Alabama

August 7, 2015

## INDIAN SPRINGS VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, August 18, 2015 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 1, 2015 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

I. Mayor/Council/Committee

Reports

II. Ordinances and Resolutions

III. Citizen's Forum

Indian Springs Village Telephone Directory Number is 982-1755

For Town Hall Reservations please contact Amy Easton. e-mail:

[isvtownhallres@charter.net](mailto:isvtownhallres@charter.net)

Website: [www.indianspringsvillage.org](http://www.indianspringsvillage.org)

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

We are gearing up for our 25th Anniversary party commemorating the founding of our town. This will be in October and is really going to be special. Expect to hear more about this event in the near future!

Meanwhile, you may have to check the Indian Springs Village website more frequently for updates and current news as we still do not have a new editor for *The Village Voice*. Alison Stigers graciously volunteered to do this month's, as well as last month's issue. However, she will not be available next month. Our website is not static, and new information gets posted frequently. I still hope someone will step forward to edit our newspaper so we will be able to continue the tradition of a community paper.

Sincerely,

Brenda Bell-Guercio

## EDITOR'S NOTES

*The Village Voice* is the official organ of Indian Springs Village, AL, established October 16, 1990. The mission of this newsletter is to foster a spirit of community and co-operation. It is the vehicle for reporting the monthly deliberations of the mayor and council in town council meetings; additionally it provides these officials and other Villagers a means of communicating – it is a “voice.”

*The Village Voice* is published the second week of each month. Articles for the September edition should be submitted by August 28, 2015. All materials submitted for publication may be edited, including letters to the editor, which must be signed and give writer's address and phone number. All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of articles.

Address letters to the editor and news items to: Michael Harrington, Editor, 291 Valley View Lane, Indian Springs Village, AL 35124; Tel: 205.447.0273 or e-mail: [mbh0001@yahoo.com](mailto:mbh0001@yahoo.com).

### Editor's Appreciation:

Mildred Wyatt for the masthead drawing. Although Mrs. Wyatt has passed away, this acknowledgement will continue in honor of the contributions of Mrs. Wyatt and her family to *The Village Voice* and the town of Indian Springs Village.



# TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

June 16, 2015

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met Tuesday, June 16, 2015. Mayor Bell-Guercio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Town Clerk called the roll and all council members were present except Councilmembers Stauss and Harrington.

The minutes of June 2, 2015 were reviewed and accepted as written.

Councilman Robins presented and read to the Council the proposed revisions to the 2015 Zoning Ordinance. The changes were in Article IV-Administration, Section 13.0 - Zoning Board of Adjustment, 13.1A also, Article VIII - Special Exception Uses; 5.3 Home Occupation Special Exception. He also presented portions of the 2015 Zoning Ordinance (Article IV, Sections 13B through Section 15) which were previously reviewed and approved by PAZ and the Council but were inadvertently omitted from the posted version. All presented materials were to be attached to the minutes as a first reading. Following the discussion, the Council accepted the Ordinance presented by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Council set a public hearing notice for Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Chief Tyler reported that the North Shelby Fire District was awarded a \$1000 grant from Wal-Mart and they are working on a plan for use of the grant.

Deputy Lee Stockman reported that there had been 120 calls for service in May; this was double the calls for service for the same month in 2014.

Wendi Peeks, owner of Cabinet Cures of Birmingham, presented a proposal with three options for re-facing the Town Hall kitchen cabinets. She demonstrated her product and showed samples. The discussion was tabled for the time being.

Robins reported that he met with Jim Loper, of J. Loper & Company concerning the design for the new proposed entryways into the Town Hall. His charge is \$85/hr. and anticipates four hours for the plans. He should have the plans ready by the next Council meeting. Robins showed pictures of the pavers that will be considered for use for the project. Robins also advised that Mr. Loper looked at the rough plans for the proposed storage facility and will draw up plans. He anticipates it to take two hours.

Councilman Mendel thanked Robins for having the county remove privet from the blind curve on Mountain Vista and Downs thanked him for having the potholes filled on Timber Hill Road.

Mendel presented the May financial statements; they were reviewed and discussed. Mendel made a motion they be accepted as presented, Councilman Trammell seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Trammell handed out a proposed Ordinance to require a public hearing prior to adoption of the annual budget or for extraordinary expenditures of general revenue or capital

improvement funds not included in the budget during the annual budget process. He asked that it be reviewed by Council and placed on the agenda for the July 21st Town Council meeting.

Don Jones addressed the Council with his concerns concerning the herbicides used by Alabama Power Company when spraying the right of ways. The chemicals seem to be killing more than the unwanted weeds and bushes. He would like Alabama Power to notify the Town when they are going to be spraying so residents can watch where and how they spray. Mayor Guercio was going to provide Jones with a name and number of a contact within Alabama Power who might help him in this matter.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Downs, Town Clerk

# TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

July 7, 2015

The Indian Springs Village Town Council met Tuesday, July 7, 2015. In the absence of Mayor Bell-Guercio, Chairman Pro-Tem Robins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Robins called the roll in the absence of the Town Clerk and all council members were present except Councilperson Harrington.

The minutes of June 16, 2015 were reviewed and Councilman Mendel noted two corrections. Councilman Trammell made a motion to amend the third paragraph. There was no second and the motion failed. Mendel motioned to approve the minutes as corrected with a second by Robins. Trammell voted "no" and Stauss abstained. The minutes were approved as corrected by a 2 to 1 vote.

Trammell proposed amending the previously approved minutes of June 2, 2015 council meeting. As Trammell's proposal involved questions for the Town Clerk and Mayor, it was decided by a majority of members present to table the proposal until the July 21st council meeting.

Robins reported for the PAZ and reminded everyone that a public hearing on proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance (ZBA and Home Occupation Sections) would be held at the July 21st council meeting.

Deputy Stockman reported no unusual activity in ISV but vehicle break-ins had occurred just outside town limits. He reminded everyone to remove valuables from vehicles and lock them.

Mendel reported that he had been working with the Town Clerk on entry code changes to clarify purchases for materials for the Town Hall such as cleaning supplies.

Robins expressed thanks to everyone who helped make the 4th of July celebration a success. In spite of the early

rain that caused the parade to be cancelled, the lunch and festivities were a great success with approximately 250 residents and friends being served.

Robins reported that the outdoor lighting maintenance contract with Outdoor Lighting Perspectives was due for renewal. This is a budgeted item and the council agreed unanimously to renew the contract for \$220.

A public hearing was held to review a proposed ordinance to update ISV building codes to those currently used by Shelby County which include the National Electrical Code (2014 Edition), International Plumbing Code (2012 Edition) and the International Mechanical Code (2012 Edition) including amendments. The proposed ordinance was reviewed at the June 2, 2015 council meeting when the required resolution was presented and the Town Clerk directed to make necessary postings. Trammell stated that he and the Mayor had reviewed the ordinance and amendments with Town Engineer Frazier Christy and he had no problems. The floor was open for public comment or questions and there were none. It was agreed by the Council that the vote should be tabled until the next council meeting on July 21st so the Mayor could be present.

Robins adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herb Robins, Councilman

## **GARDEN CLUB SAYS GOODBYE TO ONE OF ITS MEMBERS**

*by Ruth Goodwyn, Publicity Chair, Indian Springs Garden Club*

No meeting had been scheduled for July, but Indian Springs Garden Club members met July 31, 11:30 a.m. at the Town Hall to socialize and say goodbye to Lynn Hendricks who is moving to central Georgia to be close to relatives.

The turnout was excellent, with all members present except the few who work during the day. Everyone brought her own lunch and also enjoyed slices of watermelon brought by Marge Dunn.

Villager Betty Michaels, who always donates so many plants from her garden for our annual plant exchange, was welcomed, as was Judy Goodwin, who recently moved to the Village from Wilsonville. Kelly Rasco, a previous member, dropped by to visit with everyone.

In a brief business meeting led by President Liz Alosi, the Garden Club agreed to be responsible for table decorations for the Village's annual Founders' Day event in October—this time to celebrate our 25th year in existence.

The next Garden Club meeting will be on August 27, an ice-cream social hosted by Eleanor Bennett.

## **BUILDING PERMITS**

*submitted by Frazier Christy, Town Engineer*

Applicant: Erin Fixler  
Owner: Erin R. Fixler  
Address: 6 Pawnee Drive  
Proposed Use: Demo existing residence, construct new residence

Applicant: Dennis Carlisle  
Owner: Lee Stanley  
Address: 175 Cherokee Trail  
Proposed Use: Garage addition

Applicant: Hufman Farris – Steve Jones  
Owner: CVF One, LLC  
Address: 305 Bishop Lane  
Proposed Use: Demo existing residence, construct new residence

Applicant: On-Time Electrical  
Owner: Randy Jaudon  
Address: 777 Miller Circle  
Proposed Use: Replace electrical panel

Applicant: TBD  
Owner: Chad and Linda Burdett  
Address: 2652 Buckboard Road  
Proposed Use: Replace electrical service

Applicant: On-Time Electrical  
Owner: April and Cayce Fordyce  
Address: 5558 Parkway Circle  
Proposed Use: Restore electricity – storm damage

**FREE LANDFILL DAY**  
Saturday, October 3, 2015  
Shelby County Landfill  
State Route 70 – 401 Landfill Road  
(between Calera and Columbiana)  
Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Scalehouse: 669-4169

## NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL EXCITED TO JOIN 'SHELBY COUNTY FAMILY'

by ERICA TECHO, 280 Living, July 9, 2015

Becoming an administrator means helping schools, students and teachers grow, said Laura Junkin, the new assistant principal at Oak Mountain Intermediate School.

Junkin entered the realm of teaching after realizing she wasn't happy with her job in finance. A friend working with Teach for America encouraged her to join the program.

"Being in those first few years of being in Teach for America, I knew I wanted to be in administration," Junkin said. "I wanted to help those systems."

Along with 12 years of teaching experience, Junkin has a master's in elementary education, a master's in educational leadership and an education specialist degree. Her experience helped make her a good candidate for Oak Mountain Intermediate School, said principal Pat LeQuier.

"For us, she had intermediate level experience," LeQuier said. "It's really a very distinct age group, it's that change for children between childhood and early adolescence. I knew she would relate really well to our kids."

Junkin also has experience as an Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative trainer (AMSTI). LeQuier said Oak Mountain Intermediate teachers returned from AMSTI training led by Junkin excited and ready for the change, and she believes Junkin will bring the same excitement into the school. Her experience also makes it easier to discuss AMSTI with parents and teachers.

"I kind of know where the teachers started from, and I've helped in that transition, so I think that will help me in discussions with the parents, with teachers," Junkin said.

Junkin's last position was as assistant principal at Gardendale Elementary school, where she worked for two years. Moving to Oak Mountain from another assistant principal position helps make the transition easier, Junkin said. The transition from teacher to administrator is a difficult one, but moving into another administrator position comes with helpful experience.

"I've really learned the importance of balance - being there for the parents, being there for the students and being there for the teachers, where being a teacher means more being there for the students and parents," Junkin said.

As assistant principal, Junkin serves as the chairperson of the problem solving team, a group that helps teachers address concerns about students. The group also includes a literacy coach and lead teacher, and they brainstorm plans of action to help students reach their potential.

"I'm really excited to work with those students," Junkin said. "I really like to be able to find what it is that will trigger their love for learning and help them grow."

Junkin said she is excited to work with Oak Mountain Intermediate students during their transition from elementary to middle school as she transitions from Jefferson County Schools to Shelby County Schools.

"I'm just really excited to be a part of the Shelby County family and to have this opportunity to work with Oak Mountain Intermediate," Junkin said.



*Above: Laura Junkin*

*Right: Caroline Gluck-Obert*



## NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR OAK MOUNTAIN MIDDLE

by SYDNEY CROMWELL, 280 Living, June 1, 2015

A new face will be greeting Oak Mountain's middle school students in the fall. Caroline Gluck-Obert was recently approved as the school's new assistant principal.

Gluck-Obert is moving from a position as Hueytown High School's instructional assistant principal. She has an educational specialist degree from the University of Alabama Birmingham and is completing her doctorate in educational leadership there. Gluck-Obert previously taught at Thompson High School and said she made the move to OMMS because she wanted to return to Shelby County Schools.

"I had really enjoyed it when I worked in that system and I was ready to come back," Gluck-Obert said.

Her experience in curriculum, student discipline and teacher professional development make Gluck-Obert feel prepared for her new role. At Hueytown, she was also part of a leadership team for the school's continuous improvement plan. Gluck-Obert's first teaching job was at a middle school in Madison, Alabama, so she expects an easy transition from high school to middle school.

While leaving the faculty and students at Hueytown will be "bittersweet," Gluck-Obert said she looks forward to meeting OMMS students in August and watching them meet the high standards their teachers set for them.

"I'm excited to see what types of critical thinkers the students are," Gluck-Obert said.

## VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION / INTRO TO ALABAMA WILDLIFE CENTER – OAK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Sunday, September 6, 2015

Attending the Volunteer Orientation is recommended if you're interested in volunteering or are simply curious about AWC. At this free session, usually held on the first Sunday of each month except December, you'll learn about our mission and history, volunteer opportunities and ways to support AWC's work. You'll meet some of the AWC staff and volunteers, have an opportunity to get answers to your questions and enjoy a brief tour of our facility.

- Times: approximately 2-4:00 p.m.
- Dress: comfortably (we're mostly a jeans & t-shirt crowd)
- Fee: none, but there is an Oak Mountain State Park entrance fee: adults \$3, children 6-11 \$1 (children under 6 free), senior citizens 62+: \$1
- Location: map & directions to AWC

If your schedule does not permit you to register in advance, you can simply arrive a few minutes early to complete your registration in person. Quiet children are invited to attend, but please note that the minimum age to volunteer is 18 (16 if accompanied by parent).

Questions? Email us! Or call (205) 663-7930, Ext. 3.

## PRESERVING ALABAMA'S WILD PLACES: FROM THE PAINT ROCK RIVER AND BEYOND

Sunday, October 19th, 2:00 p.m.  
– Steve Northcutt, Guest Speaker  
(OMIC)

Audubon Teaches Nature Program Series

2014-2015/ Co-sponsored by the Birmingham Audubon Society, Alabama Wildlife Center, Oak Mountain Interpretive Center and Friends of Oak Mountain Visitors to the Paint Rock River Valley will certainly understand why our state has been called Alabama the Beautiful. Idyllic streams ply the valley and mountain cove forests cloak the picturesque countryside. The region features unique geological formations, an amazing array of aquatic wildlife and a plethora of plant life. Steve's program will discuss the work that The Nature Conservancy is doing to protect this last of Alabama's Great Places.

## ISV NEEDS YOU!

Michael Harrington, editor of *The Village Voice* for the past year, is embarking on a new career. We wish him all the best and thank him for his service, as we call for a volunteer to take over as editor. The hours are few - approximately 4 per month - the rewards are many.

You'll be giving your time to a great community, keeping valuable information flowing to all the residents of Indian Springs Village and continuing our town's tradition of volunteerism.

Experience with a desktop publishing program is a plus, and organizational skills and the ability to hit a deadline are helpful. If you would like to discuss the parameters of the position, please contact Town Clerk Joan Downs at [joan@indianspringsvillage.org](mailto:joan@indianspringsvillage.org) or (205) 982-1755.

One thing is guaranteed, you'll be working with a great group of dedicated people!

### eVillage Voice

Have *The Village Voice* delivered to your email! Please forward your name, address and email address to: [myvillagevoice@yahoo.com](mailto:myvillagevoice@yahoo.com). Sign up now to make sure you don't miss any future issues.



# DRIVE-THROUGH TRANSPLANTS

*by Joan Downs, Indian Springs Village Town Clerk*

As many of you know, last August I donated a kidney to a friend of mine. This is our one year transplant anniversary which inspired me to write this article. What you may not be aware of is how relatively simple the process was. After reading this, if you know someone who is in need of a kidney, you may be more likely to step up and save a life, or just pass this on to someone else who may be considering it.

My friend Sharon Loftin from Carrollton, Georgia was diagnosed with hereditary chronic kidney disease several years ago. Her mother had the same disease and required a kidney transplant about 35 years ago. Sharon spent the last ten years following a very strict diet in order to prolong the life of her kidneys and to put off dialysis as long as possible. However, in January of last year, she was placed on the kidney transplant list.

On Memorial Day of last year, we were at the lake with friends and I noticed that Sharon's color was not good (very pale and she slept most of the weekend). Her diet consisted of Rice Krispies marshmallow bars, cereal with dry coffee creamer and water and very small portions of select vegetables and fruit. Her portions were so small that she was not getting a lot of nutritional value from the food she could eat. She was extremely fatigued most of the time. Sharon works in the emergency room at a hospital in Carrollton, typically not a slow-paced area of the hospital. She had to work in order to have health insurance because she knew she was going to have to have dialysis and/or a transplant to stay alive, but it was becoming more and more difficult.

All of my friends know that I am a big baby when it comes to needles, hospitals and blood (I have hyperventilated and even passed out just from a shot) and hospitals have always made me uncomfortable (my only hospital stay was when my son was born thirty seven years ago). But, I knew I had to suck it up and help my friend. For some reason, I just knew we would be a match.

On Monday morning, I called the transplant department of Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta and spoke to the transplant coordinator. The first step in the process is a phone interview. Several friends who wanted to donate did not make it through this first step mainly because of medications they are on. Blood pressure medication is the main drug that eliminates potential donors immediately. Well, so far, I was the only person to get through the first step of the process. The next step was blood testing to see if our antibodies were compatible. I'll be honest, this might have been the worst part for me personally, but the results were great. We were compatible. Fortunately, I was up

to date with all my annual medical exams so all these records were sent to Piedmont and did not need to be repeated. The only thing I was a tad behind on was a colonoscopy. I think you are supposed to have one at 50, and at this time I am 62 - somehow I had purposely managed to slip through that crack. The procedure went well and I did not pass out when they put the IV in (I seem to be getting better with this needle phobia). The only down side to this experience was when the doctor said, "Oh, I didn't know they would take 62-year-old kidneys." Well, they do, thank you very much.

Next, I had to go to Piedmont for another battery of testing which consisted mostly of taking blood and more blood. This was a two day process. I passed the test again and the surgery was scheduled.

I am sure everyone has always heard that the surgery and recovery is always harder on the donor than the recipient. Well, this is because the recipient is very sick and the donor is very healthy. It stands to reason that the recipient feels better immediately and the donor has just gone through major surgery and feels bad. This is how it was done in the old days when the donor was cut from the back to the front in order to get the kidney out. In today's world, it is totally different. I had four small incisions, the surgery was done laparoscopically and robotically. A surgeon's hands were never in my body. The surgery was on Friday and I could have gone home Saturday but, since I was going to have to travel, I decided to stay until Sunday.

My only restriction when I came home was I could not drive for two weeks. I won't lie. I had some discomfort afterwards and it took awhile to get my stamina back. After all, I was missing a major organ. But, it was minimal and this is what I would like for you to take from this article. I would do it again. If I could grow another kidney, I would donate it in a heartbeat, even to a stranger. It is wonderful that people donate their organs after they pass away but, think about it: what if you can do it while you are still alive and with minimal discomfort.

I'm not sure why God put this opportunity before me, but he did and it has served as a blessing to me. If you know someone in need of a kidney, I hope this article in some way makes it easier to come to a decision about donating or, if you know someone who has agreed to donate and needs a mentor, please have them call me, I would love to help. Mayor Waters from Pelham, also a donor, was my mentor and he was great.

I hope I have explained well enough so that everyone understands that kidney donation is not the sacrifice it used to be. Technology and research have made the procedure so much easier on donors that we should not think twice if we can save a life.



AUGUST, 2015

Heartmont Park Senior Center  
5452 Cahaba Valley Road Birmingham, AL 35242

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi	4 10-10:45 Aerobics 10:45-11:30 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH	5 9-12 Bridge 12 LUNCH	6 10:00-11:00 Aerobics 11:00-11:55 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH	7 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing
10 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-2:30 – Canasta	11 10-10:45 Aerobics 10:45-11:30 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH	12 9-12 Bridge 12 LUNCH	13 10:00-11:00 Aerobics 11:00-11:55 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH Shopping and out to	14 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing
17 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-2:30 – Canasta	18 10-10:45 Aerobics 10:45-11:30 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH	19 9-12 Bridge 12 LUNCH	20 10:00-11:00 Aerobics 11:00-11:55 Aerobics 11:00 Becky with Harrison Library 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH	21 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing
24 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-2:30 – Canasta	25 10-10:45 Aerobics 10:45-11:30 Aerobics 11 Bible Study 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12 LUNCH	26 9-12 Bridge 12 LUNCH	27 10:00-11:00 Aerobics 11:00-11:55 Aerobics 10-2 Bingo & Board Games 12- LUNCH <b>TEAM SPIRIT DAY-WEAR YOUR TEAM COLORS</b>	28 9-10 Zumba Gold 10-11 Intermediate Line Dancing 11-12 Beginning Line Dancing <b>HEARDMONT DANCE 6:30-9:00</b>
31 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi 9:30- 12 Mah Jongg 10:30-2:30 – Canasta				Center hours are: Monday-Friday 9-3 pm Phone : 991-5742 Fax: 991-5657 Email: heartmontparksc@gmail.com